

MEETING MINUTES FOR 6-11-14 VIOLENT CRIME COORDINATION COUNCIL

Council members in attendance: John Gross; Hector Garcia; Chris Benson; Jim Jensen; Kip Carver (for Rich Stanek); Mike Goldstein; Ken Reed (for Thomas Smith); Drew Evans (for Wade Setter); Matt Bostrom; Mark Uner; Brian Mueller; David Voigt; and Melvin Carter.

DPS Staff: Kristin Lail; Brian Marquart; Mark Dunaski; Rita Joyce; Tricia Hummel and Kate Weeks.

Guests: Carol Falkowski and Jeffrey McGee.

Observers: Allison Miller and Kendra Miller.

Absent: Andy Luger; Hilary Caligiuri; David Hermerding; Gordon Ramsay; Janee Harteau; and Bill Ziegler.

Meeting materials:

- VCCC 6/11/14 agenda
- VCCC 4-9-14 Draft meeting minutes
- 2014 DPS Legislative Update
- VCCC 2014 Committee Structure;
- Statewide Commander Report 6-11-14
- 2015 Violent Crime Enforcement team eligibility criteria
- 2015 Violent Crime Enforcement Team Draft RFP
- Drug Abuse Trends update power point
- Drug Abuse Trends in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Area: June 2014
- Ruben Rosario: Crime prevention specialist has built trust in Minneapolis' Latino community
- Youth and Prescription Drug Abuse

Location: The meeting was held in the Pung Conference Room, Minnesota Department of Corrections, 1450 Energy Park Drive.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jim Jensen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He noted that the approval of the April meeting minutes and June agenda would be tabled until later in the meeting when a quorum was present. (There are 18 voting members and a quorum requires 10 in attendance.)

Legislative Update

DPS Legislative Director Kate Weeks reviewed a summary of 2014 legislative outcomes, including Forensic Lab Accreditation, Judicial Forfeiture, Surrendering Firearms, Drug Overdose

Prevention/Steve's Law, Part-time Peace Officer License, Records Expungement, Predatory Offender Registry, Crime of Violence, Cell Surveillance, Data Breach Bill, Synthetic Drugs, Fraudulent Documents, and Medical Cannabis. She noted that the proposed amendment to the Violent Crimes Coordinating Council statute, 299A was not included in the final unsession bill signed by Governor Dayton.

Standing Committee Updates

Governance: Kristin Lail noted that the governance committee has not met since the last VCCC meeting. OJP Director Raeone Magnuson tracked all legislation relevant to the VCCC throughout the session and provided updates to the Executive Committee. She met with Representative Paymar about his concerns with VCCC policy work and discussed the proposed amendment. While it was submitted and passed through the House, it was not changed in the Senate version or conference committee, so the VCCC enabling legislation remains as originally drafted. She noted that the VCCC could choose to amend by-laws or committee structure, which was developed through a strategic planning process. Under the governance committee, there are three bullets related to narcotics and gang policy work including offering positions, proposing legislation and providing testimony to the legislature. The VCCC agreed to revise the activities of the governance committee to proposing issues for the Department of Public Safety legislative plan, making recommendations to the Commissioner of Public Safety on relevant legislation, , and testifying when requested. If member concerns are not included in the DPS legislative plan, they may convey information through their local representatives or professional organizations like the Chief's, Sheriff's and County Attorney's Associations. The chairs of each committee can propose changes to the bullets on the committee structure as the nature of their work changes.

M/S/P (Evans/Reed) Action on 4-9-14 meeting minutes: Motion to approve minutes adding a recognizing Brian Marquart for his liaison with VCET commanders and OSA staff by translating findings and providing technical assistance in developing corrective measures.

M/S/P (Reed/Carver) Action on Agenda: Motion to approve agenda

Data Committee: Drew Evans reported that BCA has an executed grant with OJP and have hired an analyst responsible for gang data entry. He is also identifying training needs. Since the data is public, he will be working with agencies and investigators to provide the minimal amount of documentation to support gang criteria. The Wisconsin data system was provided as an example of a centralized repository which is input locally. BCA staff also attended the first meeting of the new legislative commission on data practices and noted there were concerns voiced about law enforcement data. The commission will be making recommendations on

legislative proposals impacting personal data privacy rights, data security, and other related issues.

Professional Standards Committee: Brian Marquart reported that additional audits have been forwarded to the committee for review, with no major violations noted. He continues to provide follow-up technical assistance to VCETs after the audits are published. The final round should be complete by the end of the summer and the committee will be convened to review common issues and consider updates to the Guidelines Manual.

Community Engagement Committee: Hector Garcia noted that the second community roundtable project was held in South East Minnesota at the end of April. The Rochester meeting was not as large as the first community roundtable in St. Paul, but had a good discussion. He noted challenges in engaging smaller populations and cited fear of the police. A staff member from the Council of Black Minnesotans attended and is interested in partnering on other projects. The committee had a conference call to review the results of the two roundtables and discuss next steps. VCCC supported a third roundtable in Northern Minnesota, noting that Department of Corrections Commissioner Roy has suggested Duluth. Kristin Lail agreed to follow up with Chief Ramsay and Lake Superior Drug Task Force. She noted that they could provide a sample invitation letter, agenda, facilitation guidelines, feedback form and after action report. Hector Garcia agreed to facilitate the Duluth roundtable but they can also reach out to local community leaders. He referenced a recent commentary on immigration in the Pioneer Press and agreed to write an article for Chiefs Association Magazine about law enforcement community engagement and the VCET roundtable pilots.

Statewide Commander Update: Brian Marquart provided a brief summary training and technical assistance provided to VCETs.

- Many VCETs took part in large heroin operation resulting in numerous arrests and seizures across the state.
- Attended VCET board meetings and conducted site visits to follow-up on VCET audit reports. OSA has completed 18 audits and 5 are pending.
- Provided orientation to several new VCET commanders and administrative staff.
- Attended Sheriff Conference and MSANI Can-Am training. Arranged three separate presentations on synthetic drugs which were very well received.
- Arranging Clan Lab recertification training in August and noted steady increase in methamphetamine labs in recent years.
- Met with the US Attorney's Office and DHS in reference to law enforcement access to information from addiction treatment programs for narcotics investigations.
- 2013 VCET data indicates that meth is back to the 2005 levels, with annual seizures of more than 70,000 grams. Heroin has also increased four times since last year.

Synthetics have skyrocketed to more than a million grams in seizures. VCETs are now separately tracking synthetic cannabinoids and cathinones.

- Reviewed and contributed to the new synthetics website under development by DHS.

2015 Violent Crime Enforcement Team (VCET) RFP: Kristin Lail reported that the targeted funding model discussed at the April meeting would not be used in the 2015 award process and instead a competitive RFP would be issued in July. She asked for recommendations for grant reviewers in September that had both task force and grant experience. VCCC reviewed and discussed eligibility criteria and Brian Marquart pointed out key issues of commander supervision, co-location, minimum number of full-time investigators and number partner agencies. He has met with those VCETs most impacted by these changes and has also met with those interested in starting a new VCET in Rice County.

M/S/P (Goldstein/Reed) Motion to approve VCET eligibility criteria for 2015

Lunch break

Twin Cities Drug Trends Report

Carol Falkowski presented the most recent data on drug trends in Minnesota developed through the Drug Abuse Epidemiology Network of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. She reported increased use of opiates with a high potential for abuse, addiction and overdose, noting the largest increase in young people between the ages of 18 and 25. In addition to the three-pronged approach of prevention, law enforcement and treatment, opiate policy must also address the practice of medicine since prescription pain medication is so inextricably linked with heroin addiction. The prescription drug abuse monitoring program should also be required and more accessible to law enforcement. She also reviewed recent data on synthetics, marijuana and

August Meeting Preview: Jeffrey McGee; Assistant Special Agent in Charge from Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), provided a brief overview of new initiatives in Minnesota, including Front Line, Shots Fired, NIBIN and E-Trace. ATF works closely with local VCETs on investigations involving guns and shootings. A full presentation will be provided at the next VCCC meeting.

M/S/P (Bostrom/Carver) Motion to Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.